
NEWS From:

Congressman Mike Honda



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Rep. Honda Commends American Airlines for Heeding Call and Giving Military Personnel Relief

WASHINGTON, May 16, 2003 — Today, **U.S. Rep. Mike Honda** (D – San Jose) commended American Airlines for launching a new system-wide fare sale for travel exclusively for members of the U.S. military on active duty and their dependent family members.

Members of the U.S. Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marines, Navy, National Guard and Reserves on active duty and their dependents are eligible. The special fares require only a three-day advance purchase and are available to all 250 airports worldwide served by American and American Eagle for travel through Feb. 12, 2004.

"I commend American Airlines for giving our men and women of the armed services and their families relief," said **Rep. Honda**, who is a member of the Aviation Subcommittee in the House of Representatives. "I have been working hard on this issue in Congress, and am delighted that American Airlines has answered the call. Now it is time for the other airlines to step up to the plate."

"We want to show appreciation to our men and women in uniform, and their families, for the many sacrifices made during Operation Iraqi Freedom," said **Dan Garton, executive vice president-Marketing with American Airlines**. "What better way to make it easier for families and friends to get together than special low fares?"

On May 14, 2003, the Aviation Subcommittee of the House Transportation Committee approved an amendment by Reps. Honda and Tauscher to the Flight-100 Century of Aviation Reauthorization Act. The amendment urges every U.S. airline to offer all members of the U.S. armed forces on active duty reduced air fares comparable to the lowest air fare for ticketed flights. On May 15, 2003, Reps. Honda and Tauscher introduced a resolution, **H. Res. 236**, which called on the airlines to give members of our

armed forces relief.

Reps. Honda and Tauscher are working closely with **Blue Star Moms**, an organization based in San Ramon, Calif., comprised of mothers who have sons and daughters in the military. They are rightfully passionate about this cause, because they know first-hand the difficulty their children encounter when purchasing tickets to return home. www.bluestarmoms.org